

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

SAJ-01 SAM-01 EUR-12 ACDA-05 /085 W

----- 123149

R 220920Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5672

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 18131

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, CH

SUBJECT: JAPAN-PRC PEACE FRIENDSHIP TREATY: AMB CHEN'S REMARKS

REF: STATE 299316 (NOTAL)

1. THE ITALIAN MESSAGE IN REFTEL WAS SLIGHTLY GARBED
SINCE PRC AMB CHEN CHU LEFT TOKYO SUDDENLY OCT 7 BEFORE FONMIN
MIYAZAWA'S NOV 7 STATEMENT IN THE DIET AND HAS STILL
NOT RETURNED. CONCLUSION DRAWN IN REFTEL THAT PRC MIGHT
OPPOSE A UNILATERAL STATEMENT BY GOJ, NEVERTHELESS,
COULD CERTAINLY PROVE TO BE ACCURATE. IN ABSENCE OF
REACTION THOUGH, FONOFF (FUJITA) IS INCLINED TO VIEW
PEKING'S SILENCE WITH SOME OPTIMISM.

2. CHEN'S LENGTHY ABSENCE FROM TOKYO HAS BEEN CAUSE OF
CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN FONOFF. CHARGE MI KUO-CHUN
TOLD MIYAZAWA EARLY THIS MONTH THAT AMB CHEN WAS IN HIS
NATIVE PROVINCE OF SHENYANG. LATER FONOFF OFFICIALS
WERE TOLD BY MI THAT CHEN WAS ON AN INSPECTION TOUR
OF FACTORIES. JAPANESE SPECULATION ON REASONS FOR EXTENDED
ABSENCE RANGE FROM SICKNESS TO POLITICAL DISFAVOR.
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GOJ CABINET RESEARCH BUREAU REGARDS CHEN AS ALLY OF

CHIANG CHING AND SOME ANALYSTS ATTRIBUTE HIS ABSENCE TO HER WANING POLITICAL FORTUNES. THERE IS ALSO SOME SPECULATION THAT CHEN IS IN PEKING'S DISFAVOR BECAUSE OF HIS HANDLING OF THE PFT NEGOTIATIONS.

3. PRESS HAS GUESSED, WE SOULD SAY REASONABLY, THAT VISIT BY SOVIET FONMIN GROMYKO TO TOKYO JAN 9 MIGHT PROMPT PEKING TO SEND ITS AMBASSADOR BACK TO TOKYO. SHOULD CHEN RETURN, WE ASSUME THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE GOJ A READING OF REACTION IN PEKING TO MIYAZAWA'S APPROACH TO HANDLING "HEGEMONY."

HODGSON

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